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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/594,493	09/28/2006	Satoshi Iino	1.9289.06207	3787
52989 7590 04/16/2009 Dickinson Wright PLLC James E. Ledbetter, Esq. International Square 1875 Eye Street, N.W., Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20006				
EXAMINER SCHWARTZ, JOSHUA L.				
ART UNIT 2617		PAPER NUMBER		
MAIL DATE 04/16/2009		DELIVERY MODE PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/594,493

Applicant(s)

IINO ET AL.

Examiner

JOSHUA SCHWARTZ

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 September 2006.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application

1. This is a First Office Action on the Merits. Claims 1-4 are present for examination at this time.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "Personal Virtual Bridged Local Area Networks" by Volpano, US20030120763A1, ("Volpano").

With regard to Claim 1, Volpano discloses an access point control system comprising: a plurality of access point apparatuses (Volpano at ¶10 ll. 2-3 and 6, where each access point, or "AP", can create a VLAN and the distribution system can comprise multiple VLANs which means that there are multiple access points. Furthered at ¶16 ll. 2-3 where a second access point and its VLAN are disclosed) ; and an access point control apparatus that transmits messages to the plurality of access point apparatuses and controls the plurality of access point apparatuses (¶ 5 where the Distribution System, or "DS", is above the access point in the network hierarchy and ll. 8-10 where every AP has a DS interface and a radio interface); wherein the access point control apparatus has: a distribution section that distributes frames from the access point apparatuses to a plurality of VLANs (Virtual Local Area Networks) based on BSSIDs (Basic Service Set Identifiers) (¶56 ll. 4-6, where frames received from the DS by the AP, are addressed based on BSSIDs) ; and a distribution destination change section that changes a distribution destination VLAN according to the distribution section (¶ 13 where the system has a VLAN extension/creation component that can create a new VLAN destination, and furthered at ¶16 ll. 1-

5, where a station can roam and reattach to a network at a new AP, and the access point/bridge is informed of the attachment to the new VLAN).

With regard to Claim 2, Volpano discloses the access point control system according to claim 1, wherein: the distribution section has: a correspondence table that holds information of the plurality of BSSIDs and a corresponding plurality of VLAN tags (it is understood by one of ordinary skill in the art that an interface will have a routing table for the clients it hosts, see ¶ 54 “port state information”, ¶74 security table for MIC keys, and attached “IP Routing table, section 3.1.3.3. from TCP/IP Tutorial and Technical Overview, by Rodriguez et al., pp. 75-76. An access point with multiple stations, such as those disclosed in Volpano would not function without them); and a section that distributes the frames to a plurality of VLANs based on the correspondence table (Id.); and the distribution destination change section has a section that changes a distribution destination VLAN by changing one or another of the plurality of VLAN tags of the correspondence table (¶753 where a new key, or VID, Virtual LAN ID is given, furthered at ¶74 line 8 where a frame with a null VID, or an “untagged” frame is given a new MIC, Message Integrity Code, key from a security index table.

With regard to Claim 3, Volpano discloses an access point control method in an access point control system that has a plurality of access point apparatuses (Volpano at ¶10 ll. 2-3 and 6, where each access point, or “AP”, can create a VLAN and the distribution system can comprise multiple VLANs which means that there are multiple access points. Furthered at ¶16 ll. 2-3 where a second access point and its VLAN are disclosed), and an access point control apparatus that transmits messages to the plurality of access point apparatuses and controls the plurality of access point apparatuses (¶ 5 where the Distribution System, or “DS”, is above the access point in the network hierarchy and ll. 8-10 where every AP has a DS interface and a radio interface); the access point control method comprising: a distribution step of having the access point control apparatus distribute frames from the access point apparatuses to a plurality of VLANs based on BSSIDs (¶56 ll. 4-6, where frames received from the DS by the AP, are addressed based on BSSIDs); and a distribution destination changing step of changing a distribution destination VLAN in the distribution step section (¶ 13 where the system has a VLAN extension/creation component that can create a new VLAN destination, and furthered at ¶16 ll. 1-5, where a station

can roam and reattach to a network at a new AP, and the access point/bridge is informed of the attachment to the new VLAN).

With regard to Claim 4, Volpano discloses an access point control apparatus in an access point control system that has a plurality of access point apparatuses (Volpano at ¶10 ll. 2-3 and 6, where each access point, or “AP”, can create a VLAN and the distribution system can comprise multiple VLANs which means that there are multiple access points. Furthered at ¶16 ll. 2-3 where a second access point and its VLAN are disclosed), and an access point control apparatus that transmits messages to the plurality of access point apparatuses and controls the plurality of access point apparatuses (¶ 5 where the Distribution System, or “DS”, is above the access point in the network hierarchy and ll. 8-10 where every AP has a DS interface and a radio interface); the access point control apparatus comprising: a distribution section that distributes frames from the access point apparatuses to a plurality of VLANs based on BSSIDs (¶56 ll. 4-6, where frames received from the DS by the AP, are addressed based on BSSIDs); and a distribution destination change section that changes a distribution destination VLAN according to the distribution section (¶ 13 where the system has a VLAN extension/creation component that can create a new VLAN destination, and furthered at ¶16 ll. 1-5, where a station can roam and reattach to a network at a new AP, and the access point/bridge is informed of the attachment to the new VLAN).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOSHUA SCHWARTZ whose telephone number is (571)270-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, V Paul Harper can be reached on 571-272-7605. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/VINCENT P. HARPER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617